UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/310
18 March 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 18 MARCH 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AFGHANISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan with regard to the situation on the border between Afghanistan and Tajikistan was issued as Security Council document S/1994/235 dated 1 March 1994. The statement refers to the presence of Russian troops in Tajikistan at the border of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

I have the honour to enclose herewith a document containing the main points of a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, in response to the above-mentioned statement of the Tajik authorities.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its attachment circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mr. A. G. Ravan FARHADI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Main points of the statement dated 25 February 1994, transmitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan by the Consulate of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Dushanbé in response to the protest note of the Tajik authorities dated 22 February 1993

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan and refers to the statement of 22 February 1994 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan contained in a note delivered to the Consulate of Afghanistan in Dushanbé.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan, with due regard to the principles of good-neighbourliness, non-interference in the internal affairs of all States and the observance of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Good-Neighbourliness concluded between the Islamic State of Afghanistan and the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as the border treaty between the two countries signed during the official visit of the head of State of the Islamic State of Afghanistan to Tajikistan, has not and shall not allow anyone to use Afghan soil for the purpose of resorting to destructive operations against the Republic of Tajikistan.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan, once again, reaffirms that it never wishes to see the friendly and brotherly country of Tajikistan face the problems of disturbances, fighting and bloodshed. The Islamic State of Afghanistan, after very useful and productive meetings, held in an atmosphere of goodwill and understanding, between H.E. Mr. Burhanuddin Rabbani, President of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, and H.E. Imam Ali Rahmanov, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, in Dushanbé, expressed its full readiness to exert every effort in order to help to solve the problems of Tajik refugees in Afghanistan and the clashes on the border between Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

Our Tajik friends are fully aware that there are such circles and elements who, by creating tensions, intend to damage utterly the cordial and fraternal relations between our two countries.

It is earnestly hoped that the destructive and hostile activities of these elements should not be attributed to the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

The accusation of involvement of some commanders of the Ministry of Defence of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in these clashes, as claimed in the letter of protest of Tajikistan, is considered by the Islamic State of Afghanistan to be baseless and deserves to be seriously rejected. However, the Islamic State of Afghanistan is ready to look at some other points mentioned in the Tajik protest note and to make an appropriate investigation. In the event that some of these complaints prove to be legitimate, the Islamic State of Afghanistan will take appropriate action towards identifying and punishing the elements involved.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan is of the opinion that the two sides, through joint efforts, may initiate and bring about a mechanism by which the security of the frontiers will be ensured and all types of hostile actions on the border between the countries will be prevented.

Referring to the claim of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan, namely that it is in possession of accounts attesting that the Tajik anti-government groups presently staying inside the territory of the Islamic State of Afghanistan are allegedly conducting and planning a series of hostile activities inside the territory of Tajikistan, the Afghan side states that the Tajik refugees have been given refuge and shelter as guests, on the basis of the traditional brotherly relations, between the people of Tajikistan and Afghanistan and on the basis of humanitarian considerations. The Tajik refugees have been made to understand that they must strictly refrain from conducting any possible hostile activities against the Republic of Tajikistan from within the territory of Afghanistan. They are, moreover, encouraged and exhorted to enter into negotiations with the leadership of the Republic of Tajikistan aimed at solving the problem. The Islamic State of Afghanistan was encouraged to see that the leaders of the Tajik refugees accepted this call. Therefore, the notion of the planning of destructive activities inside Afghanistan is completely false and baseless.

The authorities of the Islamic State of Afghanistan seriously recommend to the friendly and fraternal Government of Tajikistan not to allow the Russian armed forces stationed on the border between the two countries to conduct armed attacks against the territory of Afghanistan. Such hostile acts would revive the bitter memories of the invasion of Afghanistan by the former Soviet Union and would provoke the hard feelings of the Afghan people and mujahidin. Such attacks would certainly cause an intensification of the tension.